



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 17, 2015  
Contact: Martin Colburn, City Manager  
231-922-4440

Re: Appointment of Traverse City Chief of Police

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN – Traverse City Manager Martin Colburn is pleased to announce the promotion of Captain Jeffrey O'Brien to Chief of Police for the City of Traverse City. Chief O'Brien was selected from a highly qualified pool of 49 applicants to provide leadership to the Traverse City Police Department. He was assisted in the selection process by an interview and advisory panel consisting of Grand Traverse County Emergency Manager Gregg Bird, Traverse City Central High School Principal Rick Vandermolen, and Traverse City Clerk Benjamin Marentette.

Chief O'Brien has served with distinction in both military and civil law enforcement, having served in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps for four years, and is a 24 year veteran of the Traverse City Police Department. He was hired in 1991 as a Patrol Officer, advancing to Sergeant, then to Captain, and most recently acting as Interim Chief of Police. Chief O'Brien will officially take office on December 27, 2015.

Manager Colburn stated he was very impressed with Chief O'Brien's knowledge, training, energy and enthusiasm, and feels he is a good fit as the leader of Traverse City's Police Department. Chief O'Brien is a professional police administrator and officer, who holds himself and his department to very high standards. He has embraced strategic planning for his department, working as a team with the men and women of the Police Department to strengthen its role in our community. "I expect the Chief to continue the progress he has made in restructuring the Traverse City Police Department, bringing the Department to the next level of providing service to the community, instituting updated community policing procedures."

We are confident that Chief O'Brien's dedication to the Traverse City Police Department and the citizens of Traverse City will continue to grow as he assumes his new role.